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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

SEP 17 2004

Application of: Jon A. Wolff, )  
Paul M. Slattum, James E. Hagstrom, )  
Vladimir G. Budker )

Serial No.: 09/631,152 )

Examiner: Daniel M. Sullivan

Filed: 08/02/2000 )

Group Art Unit: 1636 )

**For: Gene Expression With Covalently Modified Polynucleotides**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated March 22, 2004.